CANCER – Health Care Use & Policy Studies

to exclude trials where QoL was not measured and studies with n patients from these regions in clinical trials. Thus, the objective of this study was to systematically review the extent of any AD use among individuals with cancer and depression; however ADs are also being used in certain cancers exists; ADs are still being prescribed in this population.

Antidepressants (ADs) are primarily used to treat depression and anxiety among individuals with cancer. OBJECTIVES: Gain insights into Health Technology Assessment (HTA) agencies’ expectations regarding Health-Related Quality of Life (HRQoL) for cost-effective- ness evaluations of new medications for treating Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC). METHODS: In January 2013, 61 HTA agencies websites were scanned to identify HTAs of new medications for the treatment of CRPC published from 2005 to present. Only those evaluating the cost-effectiveness of new technolo- gies were retained and analyzed for a better understanding of HTA agencies’ expectations. RESULTS: Our comprehensive review of CRPC HTAs was: 1) too brief, for them to be accurate; 2) not comprehensive in the selection of HTA agencies included; 3) did not include HTAs from the United States or Asia. CONCLUSIONS: To our best knowledge, this was the first comprehensive analysis of HTA agencies’ expectations with regards to CRPC and HRQoL.

PCN112

LESSONS LEARNED FROM HTA COST EFFECTIVENESS EVALUATIONS OF NEW CAstration-Resistant Prostatic CANcer Medications
Moisse F1, Passler P2, Holstrom S3

OBJECTIVES: Gain insights into Health Technology Assessment (HTA) agencies’ expectations regarding Health-Related Quality of Life (HRQoL) for cost-effective-ness evaluations of new medications for treating Castration-Resistant Prostate Cancer (CRPC). METHODS: In January 2013, 61 HTA agencies’ websites were scanned to identify HTAs of new medications for the treatment of CRPC published from 2005 to present. Only those evaluating the cost-effectiveness of new technologies were retained and analyzed for a better understanding of HTA agencies’ expectations. RESULTS: Our comprehensive review of CRPC HTAs was: 1) too brief, for them to be accurate; 2) not comprehensive in the selection of HTA agencies included; 3) did not include HTAs from the United States or Asia. CONCLUSIONS: To our best knowledge, this was the first comprehensive analysis of HTA agencies’ expectations with regards to CRPC and HRQoL.

PCN113

PATIENT REPORTED OUTCOMES IN ONCOLOGY CLINICAL TRIALS: ARE YOU CAPTURING THE LINGUISTIC DIVERSITY OF THE PATIENT POPULATION IN INDIA?
Manisha S, Anand JS
pharmEDGE, Syosset, NY, USA

OBJECTIVES: Data collected using patient reported outcomes (PRO) tools in clinical trials provide unique information about patients’ experience with their treatment. One of the major challenges with conducting clinical trials in linguistically diverse countries such as India, however, is identifying and using PRO scales that are linguistically validated in most of the representative regional languages. Lack of availability of linguistically validated scales can limit the participation of the relevant population from clinical trials. Therefore, the objective of this study was to deter- mine if the PRO instruments used in clinical trials are linguistically validated in local languages across the various regions in India. For this study we limited our therapeutic area focus to clinical trials conducted in oncology. METHODS: A de- tailed review of the registered trials in clinicaltrials.gov was conducted using qual- ity of life (QoL) and oncology as key words. Identified articles (n = 103) were screened to exclude trials where QoL was not measured and studies with n < 30. ProQoLD and QLQ-C30 were used to determine the availability of translations and linguistic validity of the questionnaires included in clinical trials. RESULTS: EQ-SD is the most commonly used generic instrument in oncology trials and is validated in most 11 Indian languages. EORTC-QLQ-C30, EORTC-QLQH&N35, EORTC-QLQBR23 and EORTC-QLQC31 are the most commonly used cancer spe- cific instruments and are validated in approximately 10 Indian languages. None of the generic or disease specific cancer instruments have been translated or linguisti- cally validated for the Eastern & North-Eastern regions in India in languages such as Oriya, Santhali, Assamese, and Manipuri thereby limiting the participation of patients from these regions in clinical trials. CONCLUSIONS: The results of our analysis indicate that future efforts need to focus on translating and validating PRO instruments in 14 different Indian languages that should include the North Eastern regions of India.

PCN114

USE OF ANTIDEPRESSANTS AMONG INDIVIDUALS WITH CANCER: A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW
1West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV, USA, 2West Virginia University School of Pharmacy, Morgantown, WV, USA

OBJECTIVES: Antidepressants (ADs) are primarily used to treat depression and anxiety among individuals with cancer and depression, however ADs are also being used for symptomatic relief from hot-flashes, neuropathic-pain, and fatigue in this popu- lation. Although there is a lack of robust evidence on the effectiveness of ADs in this population, and conflicting reports of a possible association between AD use and risk of recurrence of certain cancers exists, ADs are still being prescribed in this population. Thus, the objective of this study was to systematically review the extent of any AD use among individuals with cancer. METHODS: A systematic literature search was con- ducted using 4 electronic databases (PubMed, CINHAL, PsychINFO, and Web-of-Science), and cross-referencing. Studies starting from 1955 to 2011, and from all countries were assessed. Eligibility criteria used for the extraction of studies included: 1) full articles published in peer-reviewed journals in English-language only; 2) observational studies with data on any use or prescription of ADs; and 3) adults and children aged >1 year diagnosed with cancer (all types and stages of cancer were included). Studies on the use of ADs in psychiatric agents or in patients with ADs or psychiatric therapy were excluded. After data extraction, number and percentages of individuals with cancer using ADs were calculated. RESULTS: The search yielded 1880 studies, 14 of which met the predefined inclusion criteria. Overall, the rates of AD use ranged from ~1%-26% in varying sub- groups of cancer patients; with a highest rate in pediatric cancer patients (7%-12.3%) and in those with advanced-stage cancers (7.4%-16%). Rates also varied according to the type of cancers: breast (11.5%-34%), prostate (7%-18.8%), colon (7.2%-13.7%) and lung (7.2%-13.7%). The rates were higher among individuals with cancer and clinically di- agnosed depression. CONCLUSIONS: Our review suggests that AD use may be associated with cancer site and stage, and presence of clinically diagnosed depression, and is lower in pediatric and advanced-stage cancer pa- tients.

PCN115

PATTERNS OF CARE IN PATIENTS WITH MYELODYSPLASTIC SYNDROMES TREATED WITH HYPMEMETHYLATING AGENTS
Faria C1, Chang E2, Powers A3, Cherepanov D4, Broder M2
1Eisai Inc., Woodcliff Lake, NJ, USA, 2Partnership for Health Analytic Research, LLC, Beverly Hills, CA, USA

OBJECTIVES: Hypermethylating agents (HMA), decitabine and azacitidine, are in- dicated for use in treatment of myelodysplastic syndromes (MDS), however only a minority of patients receive HMA. Our objective was to examine patterns of treat- ment provided with FDA-approved 5-day decitabine (DAC) and 7-day azaciti- dice (AZA-7) and off-label 5-day azacitidine (AZA-5) in MDS patients. METHODS: We identified MDS patients with an initial HMA treatment between July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2009 in 2 large insurance claims databases. Index date was the date of initial HMA treatment. Patients were stratified into DAC, AZA-5, AZA-7 based on their first cycle of treatment and were followed for 6 months. We described the number of unique cycles of index treatment and treatment gaps (days of missed treatment) in these groups. RESULTS: We identified 18,706 patients with MDS, 546 were treated with HMA and were included in the study (156 received DEC-5, 7- received AZA-7). Mean age was similar across groups: 58.8-71.2 years. Neutropenia was more common before treatment initiation in the DEC-5 (94.6%) group than in AZA-5 (22.7%) and AZA-7 (26.0%; p < 0.05) groups. There were 1,701 treatment cycles: 451 DEC-5 (per patient mean: 2.8, median: 2), 586 for AZA-5 (mean: 3, median: 3), and 684 for AZA-7 (mean: 3, median: 3) (p < 0.05 for means). DEC-5 cycles had the fewest gaps: 94.9% had no treatment gaps, compared to 89.1% for AZA-5 and 23.4% for AZA-7. Among DEC-5 cycles, 3.2% had a 2 day gap, compared to 7.2% for AZA-5 and 6.6% for AZA-7 (p < 0.001). CONCLUSIONS: In this retrospective claims analysis, few MDS patients were treated with HMA. Among those who received HMA’s, decitabine patients were more likely to have prior neutro- penia. Between the 2 FDA-approved regimens, DEC-5 and AZA-7, there were significantly fewer gaps with decitabine treatment. More treatment gaps were ob- served with use of longer AZA regimen.

PCN116

USING THE MODIFIED RAND/UCLA DELPHI PROCESS TO PRODUCE TREATMENT CONSENSUS IN UNRESECTABLE MIDGUT GASTROINTESTINAL NEUROENDOCRINE TUMORS
Straberg JR1, Fisher G2, Malin JL4, Anthony L5, Arslan B1, Gibb JF6, Hills, CA, USA
1University of South Florida College of Medicine, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Tampa, FL, USA, 2St. Jude Medical Center, Lexington, KY, USA, 3State University of New York at Buffalo, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY, USA, 4Mount Sinai Medical Center, New York, NY, USA, 5Mission Health System, Asheville, NC, USA, 6Wayne State University School of Medicine, Karmanos Cancer Institute, Detroit, MI, USA

OBJECTIVES: Comprised of carcinoid and pancreatic neuroendocrine tumors (NET), gastrointestinal NETs give rise to diverse clinical syndromes. Current treat- ment guidelines lack specificity. We summarize an expert panel consensus on medical treatment of well-differentiated (grade 1-2) unresectable midgut gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors. METHODS: We modified RAND/UCLA Delphi consensus process to produce treatment appropriateness ratings. The process involved recruitment of physician ex- perts (e.g., by specialty, geography, practice), literature review, and collection of ratings before and after a face-to-face discussion. Experts and moderator were clinicians in general and gastroenterology, general surgery, endocrinology, and radiation oncology. Panelists had practiced for a mean 15.5 years and reported seeing 25 to 800 NET patients per year. Panelists rated 202 scenarios in midgut NETs. The proportion on which there was disagreement decreased from 11.7% (23 scenarios) before the meeting to 4.5% (9 after). After the meeting, 49% (99 scenarios) were rated inappropriate, 29.7% (60) were uncertain, and 16.8% (34) were appropriate. Resulting consensus statements include: 1) it is appropriate to use somatostatin analogs as 1st-line therapy in all patients; 2) it is appropriate to in-
increase the dose/frequency of octreotide-LAR as 2nd-line therapy in patients with uncontrolled symptoms up to 60 mg every 4 weeks or up to 40 mg every 3 or 4 weeks for refractory carcinoid syndrome, and 3) as 3rd-line therapy, antiangiogenic therapy may be active in patients with carcinoid tumors. CONCLUSIONS: Treatment consensus obtained in this study is concordant with NCCN recommendations. The Delphi process, however, permitted more detailed medical treatment guidelines in a range of key areas in midgit NETs.

PCN117 AN EXPERT PANEL CONSENSUS ON MEDICAL TREATMENT OF NON-MIDGUT UNRESECTABLE NEUROENDOCRINE TUMORS

Benson AB1, Strooburg JR2, Fisher CJ3, Malin JL4, Anthony L5, Arsalan B6, Gibbs J9, Greedo E, Iyer R, Kim MK4, Maples V, Philip FA10, Wolin E11, Cherepanov D12, Broder MS13,14
1Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University, Chicago, IL, USA, 2University of South Florida College of Medicine, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute, Tampa, FL, USA, 3University of California, Los Angeles, CA, USA, 4University of Kentucky Medical Center, Lexington, KY, USA, 5State University of New York at Buffalo, Roswell Park Cancer Institute, Buffalo, NY, USA, 6Radiology, VA Health System, VA Medical Center, Tampa, FL, USA, 7University of California, Los Angeles, CA, USA, 8Wentworth State University of Medicine, Karmanos Cancer Institute, Detroit, MI, USA, 9Samuel Oschin Cancer Center, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Los Angeles, CA, USA, 10Partnership for Health Analytic Research, LLC, Beverly Hills, CA, USA

OBJECTIVES: Gastrointestinal neuroendocrine tumors (NETs) are rare and current treatment guidelines lack specificity in some clinical areas. We present a panel consensus method of treatment of well differentiated (grade 1-2 tumors) unresectable non-pancreatic non-midgit NETs. METHODS: NET treatment appropriateness ratings were collected using the RAND/UCLA Delphi process. We recruited physician experts (criteria: specialty, geography, practice), reviewed NET treatment guidelines and recruited 42 experts to provide non-midgit NET treatment ratings. Twenty additional experts were blinded to the Delphi rating process. Patient scenarios (rated on a 1-9 scale indicating appropriateness of various approaches) were collected using the RAND/UCLA Delphi process. We recruited 10 panelists to review scenarios and supported 45 rounds, 42.1% (85 scenarios) were rated inappropriate, 34.2% (69) were uncertain, 20.8% (42) were appropriate. Consensus statements from the scenarios included: 1) observation is appropriate in patients with no symptoms and low-volume radiographically-stable disease; 2) somatostatin analogs may be appropriate in patients with secretory symptoms; and 3) everolimus or interferon-α can be considered in patients who progressed radiographically or symptomatically on somatostatin analogs. CONCLUSIONS: We obtained appropriateness ratings of variety medical treatment from experts. The Delphi process enabled participants to systematically quantify their assessment of the literature in a valid and reliable way while improving overall panel consensus on the appropriateness of medical therapies in non-midgit NETs.

PCN118 PROMOTING SMOKING CESSATION AMONG CANCER PATIENTS: A NATIONAL SURVEY AMONG ONCOLOGY PROVIDERS IN THE UNITED STATES

Twazwo C, Bhattacharjee R, Janney J, Madhavan P1,2,3
1West Virginia University School of Pharmacy, Morgantown, WV, USA

OBJECTIVES: Tobacco use following cancer diagnosis is a serious concern for negative health outcomes. Despite efforts of tobacco among cancer patients and negative implications for treatment, many patients continue to use tobacco. Oncologists have a pivotal role in promoting tobacco cessation throughout treatment. This study assessed knowledge, readiness, and willingness to conduct and promote tobacco cessation counseling among a national sample of currently licensed practicing US Oncology providers. METHODS: A brief survey was administered in July 2011 via e-mail to all US oncology providers (N = 44,755) and 28% us returned survey with follow-up one-month. Response rates were 0.6% for e-mail (N = 19) and 9.6% for postal mail (N = 96), with a 2.9% overall response rate (N = 115). RESULTS: Results showed 30% of oncologists do the following often/always for patients: ask about tobacco use (96.6%), document tobacco use (93.1%), discuss tobacco use as a cancer risk factor (87.9%), counsel patients on quitting (72.8%), and assess readiness to quit (68.8%). Findings, however, also reported a majority of oncologists do the following never/rarely with patients: provide information about secondhand tobacco smoke (53.5%), provide information on quitlines (59.7%), provide brochures and self-help guides (64.3%), and follow the SA’s model for tobacco treatment (68.6%). On a scale of 0-10, providers indicated they were generally comfortable providing cessation counseling [mean = 7.0, SD = 2.4]; however, providers were less willing to participate in a tobacco cessation training [mean = 5.2, SD = 3.4]. CONCLUSIONS: Findings suggest oncology providers are asking, documenting use, and counseling patients who continue to use tobacco during treatment. Education targeting providers can increase comfort and readiness to provide cessation services.

PCN119 CHEMOTHERAPY TREATMENT AND SURVIVAL OUTCOME

Lim YL1, Lim GGC2
1Ampang Hospital, Ampang, Selangor, Malaysia, 2Kuala Lumpur Hospital, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

OBJECTIVES: The main objective was to determine the chemotherapy treatment and outcome. METHODS: Data was collected from 1 January 2008 till 31 December 2008 in Hospital Kuala Lumpur (HKL) using web-based application. Survival data would be obtained via linkage with Registration Department after four years. Data analysis was using the RITA software. RESULTS: The total number of patients was 1192. There were 54% females and the most common age group was 50-59 years. The major ethnic groups were Malay (46.5%), Chinese (37.3%) and Indians (13.8%). Most patients at the oncology clinic at HKL have good performance status with 69.5% in good, 21.6% in fair and 8.9% in poor. The most common site of primary cancer were colorectal cancer (17.4%), bronchus and lung cancer (6.5%), cervical cancer (6% and nasopharyngeal cancer (NPC) 6.2%). Most solid tumors were treated by multimodality. 48.8% received 2 or more modalities. There were 547 patients (45.9%) that received radiotherapy and 32.2% that received chemotherapy. 384 patients were given cytotoxic chemotherapy. Most patients (84.1%) received just one regimen. The most common regimen was a combination of Fluorouracil, Epirubicin and Cyclophosphamide in FEC (16.4%). The most often used cytotoxic drugs were used were Fluorouracil (26.3%), Cisplatin (15%) followed by Cyclophosphamide (9.9%), Epirubicin (7.3%), Capecitabine (4.4%), Docetaxel (4.2%), Gemcitabine (3.7%). The most often used route of administration was intravenous (92.6%) mostly infusion as opposed to bolus. Capecitabine was the cytotoxic drug that was the most widely used in the metastatic setting. CONCLUSIONS: This is only sub-study of a long-term research that began in 2008 in HKL. Patterns in chemotherapy usage may change as new drugs emerged in the Formulary. The database would be sustained as a platform for future researches and for survival analysis (283 words).

PCN120 THE IMPACT OF UNIVERSAL HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE ON USE OF MEDICINES FOR NON-COMMUNICABLE DISEASES IN THAILAND

Parungaroong A2, Sponsel B1, Garabedian L3, Ross-Degnan D1, Stephens P3, Ratanawijitrassin S5, Wagner A1
1Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA, 2IMS Health Consulting Group, London, UK, 3Health Services Research Institute, University, Salaya, NokPhamut, Thailand

OBJECTIVES: In 2001, Thailand implemented the 30 Baht Scheme, a public insurance scheme that covers the poor and uninsured and pays providers through a capitated payment scheme. Our objective is to evaluate the impact of the 30 Baht Scheme on use of medicines in Thailand for three non-communicable diseases: cancer, cardiovascular disease, and diabetes. METHODS: We used an interrupted time series design to measure the impact of the 30 Baht Scheme on total pharmaceutical market volume and market share. We used IMS Health data on quarterly purchases of medicines from hospital and retail pharmacies from 1998 to 2006. RESULTS: The 30 Baht Scheme was associated with long-term increases in hospital sector sales of medicines for conditions that can be adequately treated in outpatient and primary care settings (e.g., diabetes, high cholesterol and high blood pressure). The policy was associated with no change in sales of medicines for more life-threatening diseases, which are more appropriately treated in secondary or tertiary settings (e.g., myocardial infarction, stroke and cancer). The majority of sales were for essential medicines, yet there were also post-policy increases for non-essential medicines. Immediately following the reform, there was a significant shift in hospital sector purchases from wholesale to retail outlet. CONCLUSIONS: Our results suggest that expanding health insurance coverage with a medicines benefit to the entire Thai population may have increased the volume of medicines purchased for non-essential diseases and decreased use of less expensive generics and medicines in secondary and tertiary settings. Thorough evaluation of desired and undesired effects of universal health insurance programs are urgently needed.

PCN121 EVALUATION OF AROMATASE INHIBITOR UTILIZATION AND FAILURE IN POST-MENOPAUSAL WOMEN WITH ADVANCED ER+/HER2- BREAST CANCER

Landman Blumberg D, Namjoshi M, Thomson E4, Johnson W3, Provost L5
1Thomson Reuters, Washington, DC, USA, 2AstraZeneca Oncology US, East Hanover, NJ, USA

OBJECTIVES: To compare the demographic, clinical and treatment characteristics of post-menopausal women with advanced ER+/HER2- breast cancer (BC) treated with aromatase inhibitors (AI) who experienced 0 or ≥ 1 AI failure (AIF). METHODS: Women ≥ 55 years old, newly diagnosed with metastatic ER+ /HER2- BC (Index) were identified from the 2006-2010 Thomson Reuters MarketScan databases. Patients in the 6-month pre- or variable post-index periods treated with endocrine (Tamoxifen, fulvestrant) or AI (anastrozole, letrozole, or exemestane) therapy (ER+) or anti-estrogens (HER2) were included. RESULTS: The database included 846 index patients with analysis of primary cancer other than BC, and post-index treatment with ≥ 1 AI were retained. AIF was defined post-index as a switch to an alternative AI, ET, or chemotherapy, or AI discontinuation with no further BC treatment. RESULTS: Among 4274 ER+ /HER2- patients studied, 66% had AIF (28% had 2+ AIF). There was no difference in pre-index AI use (54% no AIF, 51.8% AIF, p=0.003). At index, AIF patients were more likely to be Medicare-eligible (57% vs. 51% with liver (7% vs. 4%), lung (10% vs. 8%), bone (56% vs. 48%), and brain (7% vs. 5%) metastases, all p<0.03. Mean follow-up days was shorter for AIF patients (486 vs. 532, p=0.006). First line AI and ET treatments were respectively 95% and 5% for AIF and 97% and 3% for no AIF patients. The most common first line therapy was anastrozole (49%¨